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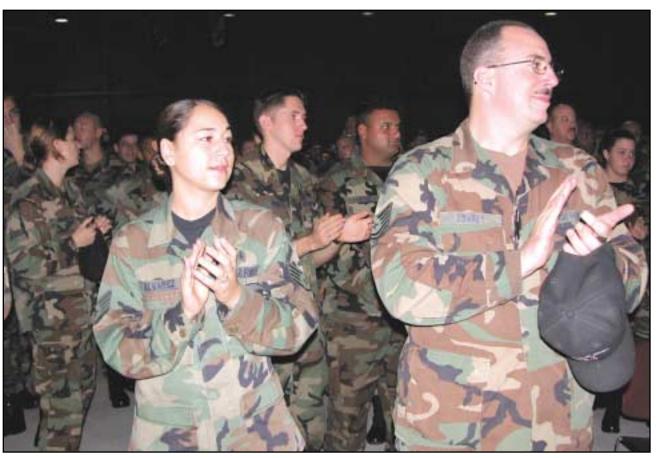


Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Staff Sgt. Yaneth Alvarez and Tech. Sgt. James Esarey, 509th Medical Support Squadron, applaud the results of the wing's Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection at the five-bay hangar Monday. Sergeant Alvarez was one of 75 Whiteman members selected as a NORI superior performer. See Page 4 for the complete list of superior performers.

509th is READY!

Wing earns record number of above average grades

By Maj. Don Langley

Public Affairs

After months of preparation, the 509th Bomb Wing received high marks during the Air Combat Command Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection outbrief Monday, posting above-average scores in more than 80 percent of the graded areas.

"We got a hard workout and a fair shake," said Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander. "I'm proud of the way the wing completed the NORI. We met ACC's demanding overall standards and had more areas rated excellent or outstanding than we've ever had in an operational readiness inspection."

Col. David McFadden, ACC Inspector General team chief, had plenty of praise for the wing, and the inspection team recognized 75 individuals and 22 teams as superior performers in their final report.

"We noted a tremendous sense of pride and focus that directly impacted your warfighting performance," said Colonel McFadden, who added the wing's Bomber Strategic Aircraft Regeneration Team operations were "the best

"If you read the IG's final report you'll see how our local exercises and hard preparation work paid off with 'strength' comments from the IG," said Lt. Col. Randy Rose, 509th Bomb Wing chief of plans. "Of course, in any inspection, there will be areas where we can improve.'

The 509th Bomb Wing will have plenty of opportunities to apply lessons learned from this inspection. In the spring, U.S. Strategic Command will conduct the Global Thunder nuclear exercise. The wing is also due for a Nuclear Surety Inspection in June and a

Superior Performance Teams

509th Bomb Wing:

Wing Command Post scenario team BSART Command Control Element Command Post Console Team Alert Force Facility Tiger Team Plans and Programs Team

509th Maintenance Group

B-2 BSART

Quality Assurance Exercise Evaluation Team 509th MXG NORI Preparation Team 509th MXS B-2 Low Observable Maintenance Team 509th MUNS Munitions Maintenance Team 1 509th MUNS Munitions Maintenance Team 2 509th AMXS Weapons Load Team

509th Mission Support Group

509th LRS Fuels Bulk Storage Team 509th LRS Fuels Distribution Team 509th LRS Mobility Readiness Spares Package Team 509th LRS War Readiness Team

509th Operations Group 509th OG BSART Strike Replanning Team 509th OG Combat Plans Preparation Team 509th OG NORI Training Team 509th OSS Intelligence Target Team 325th BS Alert Crew 4 393rd BS Alert Crew 3

Conventional Operational Readiness Inspection in early 2006. For a copy of the final IG report, contact the wing plans office at 687-6961.

News in Brief

MUNS wins DOD maintenance award

HOUSTON (**AFPN**) — Two Air Force units were awarded Secretary of Defense Maintenance Awards in recognition of outstanding achievements in fieldlevel military equipment and weapon system maintenance during an awards banquet here Oct. 27.

The 509th Munitions Squadron at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., won the recognition in the small unit category; the 27th Maintenance Group at Cannon AFB, N.M., earned honors in the large unit category. The two were among six military units recognized at the banquet.

The awards banquet was held in conjunction with the 2004 Department of Defense Maintenance Symposium and Exhibition here.

Mizzou honors military members

The University of Missouri vs. Kansas State football game takes place Saturday.

The pregame tailgate party begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Hearnes Field House in Columbia, Mo. Ticket holders should arrive on time for the tailgate event. Game time is 11:30 a.m. Tickets are sold out for this event.

Free transportation will be provided to and from the event. Team Whiteman members who wish to ride the bus must meet at the deployment facility parking lot at 6:45 a.m.

Gas pumps temporarily close

On Wednesday, contractors will switch the fuel from the underground to aboveground tanks at the shoppette. During this time, the gas islands will be closed; however, the store will remain open.

There will be ongoing construction around the islands throughout November. Shoppette officials urge customers to use caution when driving in the area.

Monday is Wingman Day

Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, will hold a commander's call at 8 a.m. Monday in the S-6 facility. The uniform is PT gear — the event will be followed by a unit run. Monday has been designated "Wingman Day" by Air Combat Command to focus on personal wellness information. After the run, 509th BW members should return to their squadron in duty uniform for unit commanders' calls beginning at 10

During the afternoon, mandatory presentations will be held at the base theater, chapel and the Fuel Cell facility inside the PL-2 area. See your Squadron orderly room for your unit's schedule and for more information about the day's activities.

Thanks, from the Cookie Bus crew

The Cookie Bus committee thanks all who donated to the Cookie Bus for their support. A special thanks goes to the Whiteman first sergeants, chaplains and spouses who donated food items, which were distributed to troops during the Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection. The event was sponsored by the officers' and enlisted spouses'

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COMMENTARY

Commander's Corner

By Col. Chris Miller

509th Bomb Wing Commander

A JOB WELL DONE! Congratulations to every 509er for successfully proving you're combat ready during the ACC Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection! Being under the microscope isn't fun, but your preparation clearly paid off. No other mission demands as much of us, and we can be proud of the team's performance. I encourage each of you to read the final inspection report. There is no doubt the 509th Bomb Wing is ready to do our job; let's be sure to keep that sharp edge! Thanks for all your hard work.

REMEMBER THE SACRIFICES.

Thursday is Veterans Day, and the time off to spend with friends and family is well deserved. Take a moment, however, to reflect on what so many veterans have paid for our freedoms, and what they mean. This week we had the opportunity to select our leaders for the next few years. For two centuries, Americans

have put on the uniform to defend that privilege. Thank you for continuing the legacy of service.

COOKIES. My thanks to all the spouses, Airmen and friends who made the "ORI cookie bus" a success. The cookies were great — the care that you all showed for flightline and other folks doing the mission was outstanding, and my hat's off to you!

CARING AND SCARING. Last weekend our First-Term Airman Center and Tier 2 organizations paired up to operate a haunted house. The team raised \$600 and collected 482 pounds of food to help the First Sergeants' Thanksgiving food drive program.

This is an outstanding example of Airmen helping Airmen. Kudos to Staff Sgt. Brad Callahan, director, and Tech. Sgt. Sam Stoecklin, who produced this year's event. The team is already setting their sights on higher goals for next year.



Photo by Airman Jason Burt

Airman 1st Class Haida Boyd, 509th Bomb Wing, Senior Airman Leah Calahan, 509th Maintenance Squadron, Staff Sgt. Brad Calahan, 509th Mission Support Squadron, and 1st Lt. Christian Paasch, 509th Maintenance Squadron, carry donated food to the Whiteman Haunted house Saturday. Whiteman's first haunted house had 417 visitors and raised \$600 for the Whiteman first sergeants' Thanksgiving food drive.

CMSAF: 'We are focused on maintaining a quality force'

Photo by Airman Jason Burton

Master Sgt. Brian Tallberg, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, lifts weights. Chief Master Sgt. Gerald Murray, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force talked about the importance of physical fitness at Langley Air Force Base, Va. recently. By Staff Sgt. Michael Voss

1st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) —

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald Murray spoke to a crowd of nearly 400 Airmen at an enlisted seminar here Oct. 22.

He discussed issues facing the Air Force, and fielded questions and concerns from those in attendance.

He started by asking how many in the audience had heard of Airman 1st Class Scott Palomino, a 19-year-old surveillance technician who lost his leg from the knee down as the result of a mortar attack in Iraq.

Chief Murray used Airman Palomino's dedicated service in Iraq to stress the importance of training and readiness in the ever-evolving Air Force.

"We have 7,000 Airmen rotating in and out of Iraq every three to four months," the chief said. "The war on terror has called our Airmen to action in many different, and sometimes nontraditional capacities. We are extremely proud of the work you are doing while deployed and back here at home stations."

He said that while heavily engaged around the world, Air Force officials are working hard to balance the force as the number of Airmen is above mandated active-duty end strength, resulting in the force-shaping program.

Air Force officials recently completed Phase I of the force-shaping program, where more than 2,400 Airmen were approved for retirement, separation or acceptance into the Palace Chase program. Palace Chase allows active-duty Airmen to transition to the Air Force Reserve

or Air National Guard. Phase II of the program further eases the restrictions on Palace Chase by changing the minimum time for application by active-duty servicemembers from 24 to 12 months.

"We are focused on maintaining a quality force," said Chief Murray, stressing the importance of supervisors becoming familiar with the career job reservation system so that they can better advise Airmen on their retention in the Air Force.

Under the recently reinstated CJR system, first-term Airmen have to apply and be recommended by their commander to reserve a position in their career field. Airmen who do not receive an approved CJR may not be allowed to re-enlist unless they are approved to retrain into another specialty.

The increased competition for jobs in the shrinking force will make it harder for Airmen who make poor decisions to continue to serve. Some otherwise good people who make mistakes resulting in actions like an unfavorable information file may have to separate, he said.

Airmen also will have to meet more strict fitness standards, Chief Murray said.

"The Air Force Fitness Program has set standards for our Airmen to achieve, but more importantly, it's designed to encourage a change in our fitness culture," he said.

The program uses a one and a half-mile run, abdominal circumference measurement, push-ups and crunches to evaluate a person's total fitness.

"Airmen should expect fitness standards to be included on officer and enlisted performance reports in the future,î the chief said.

Editorial Staff

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The deadline for article submissions to the Whiteman Spirit is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.AF.mil or write to us at:

509th BW/PA, 509 Spirit Blvd. Ste. 111 Whiteman AFB, Mo. 65305

Awareness helps prevent flu

By Maj. (Dr.) Judy Stoltmann

509th Medical Group

With all the media attention over influenza and the influenza vaccine, it's easy for anyone to get confused. These questions and answers should help you sort through the flood of information.

How can I prevent getting the

The best way to prevent getting or spreading the flu is frequent hand washing with soap and water. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Remind family members and coworkers to cover their mouth and nose when they cough and sneeze. Avoid close contact with anyone who is sick. And, of course, good nutrition, exercise, and rest will help you fight germs that cause the flu and other ill-

How do I know if I have the flu?

The signs and symptoms of the flu,include sudden high fever, muscle aches and pains, headache, fatigue, dry cough, sore throat and runny nose. It is also common for children to have nausea, vomiting and ear infections. It may be difficult to distinguish influenza from other types of

If I do get the flu, how can I take care of myself at home?

According to the self-care book, Take Care of Yourself, pages 104-105, you can take acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil, etc.) for headache, fever, and muscle aches and pain. Other over-the counter medications such as decongestants and throat lozenges can help with other symptoms.

Match the remedy to your symptoms and to drink plenty of liquids and get plenty of rest. Stay home, if at all possible, which will help ensure your rest and help prevent spreading the flu to others. For more tips, refer-

ence your Take Care of Yourself book or go to www.tricareonline.com, and click on "General Health Info" to find information about influenza.

Active-duty members should contact their supervisors before staying home from work. Air Force Instruction 41-210, Patient Administration Functions, paragraph 3.6.4 says, "Unit commanders and supervisors have the authority to grant up to 24 hours sick status at their discretion if a member's illness/injury does not require MTF intervention.

When should I call my primary care manager or health care provider?

Since influenza is caused by a virus, antibiotics will not help. However, you should see your PCM if:

✓ Your fever doesn't reduce with acetaminophen or ibuprofen, or if your fever lasts more than three to four days. It is common to have a fever for three to four days with

✓ You have difficulty breathing or shortness of breath.

✓ You have a cough which produces sputum that is yellow, green, rust-colored or bloody.

✓ You have a cough that lingers for more than seven to 10 days after other symptoms have cleared, especially if it brings up sputum. A dry, hacking cough may last several weeks after a viral illness.

If you experience facial pain, fever, and other signs of sinus infection develop including:

✓ Severe ear pain.

✓ You seem to get better, and then get worse again.

In addition, if your child has rapid breathing, wheezing, or marked irritability or lethargy, you should call your PCM — or, if severe, call 911.

Unit PCMs are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by calling 687-2188 or 800-334-2958.



Photo by Maj. Rob Palmer

Walking the 'beast'

A B-2 taxis as another aircraft prepares to follow. The bombers participated in the the beast walk Oct. 29 during the Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspec-

ACC sets 'wingman day'

An idea based on solution'

Air Combat Command units will take a day away from their normal routines to focus on the fitness of the command's most valuable resource its people.

The ACC commander, Gen. Hal Hornburg, instructed all ACC Airmen to take Nov. 8 as a day to focus on the "physical, mental and spiritual fitness of our people." The day is part of the Air Force's service-wide effort to hold a wellness day, which was established at the fall Corona Conference.

It's important we break periodically from our everyday work to take care of each other and communicate to our Airmen that they have a unique purpose as valued members of our Air Force family," General Hornburg said.

"The units will hold programs which focus on three health fronts," said Col. Edward Dixon, ACC's Director of Personnel. The physical, mental and spiritual health of our force, collectively, allows Airmen to pull together to perform the mission successfully.

"When individuals join the Air Force, they become a part of a unique culture," said Col. Dixon. "This culture and our core values drive us toward Airmen taking care of Airmen physically, mentally and spiritually. We accomplish the mission as a team, and we take care of each other as a team. 'Wingman Day' is an opportunity for us to instill that culture in every Airman, and promote a positive, purposeful outlook throughout our service.'

ACC has provided each unit suggested agendas and tool kits to use in developing their Wingman Day. All flying at ACC units will be suspended for the day to allow maximum participation by all personnel.

Units will provide more details on specific activities taking place at their locations. Airmen should contact their unit project officer for more



Photo by Staff Sqt. Ryan Hansen

NEAR BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq - Tech. Sgt. Dennis Wilson organizes school supplies for a visit to a local elementary school here Oct. 24. The visit was part of Operation Pencil Box, a humanitarian project organized to deliver school supplies to Iraqi children. Sergeant Wilson, who deployed here in September from Whiteman, is assigned to the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing command post at the air base.

Airmen participate in Operation Pencil Box

By Staff Sgt. Ryan Hansen 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq (AFPN) men from the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing were greeted with smiles, cheers and the classic thumbs-up sign as they delivered school supplies and toys to a nearby elementary school Oct. 23 as part of Operation Pencil Box.

More than 150 Iraqi children welcomed the group as they went from classroom to classroom delivering about 225 bags of school supplies. The bags contained paper, markers, crayons, coloring books and scissors. The Airmen also delivered assorted toys and clothing during the visit.

The project came to fruition when Oklahoma Air National Guard Chaplain (Capt.) Quentin Collins arrived at the chapel here. As the chapel's point of contact for humanitarian efforts, he started working with the Army civil affairs office on how to distribute supplies he had collected, and with the company grade officers' council to organize and package the supplies.

We can only win this war of ideas by creating an idea based on solution," Chaplain Collins said. "This solution can only come if the people trust us. Trust can only be established by interaction with the people in a positive and healthy way; this is one small way of doing that, and

the rewards will be huge and enduring.

With the goods packaged and ready to go, the chaplain recruited 1st Lt. Yasir Archbold of the plans and programs office, and they worked with the Soldiers to schedule the delivery.

"Operation Pencil Box was just one of hopefully several humanitarian efforts we will be sponsoring in the near future," said Lieutenant Archbold, who is deployed from Altus Air Force Base, Okla.

The event touched many of the Airmen who were

The experience was absolutely wonderful," said Staff Sgt. Nate Brown, 332nd AEW administration section, who is deployed from Eglin AFB, Fla. "This event gave me the opportunity to see the Iraqi people in a whole new light. It really gave me a better understanding of why we are here and what exactly it is that we are fighting for.'

Yugoslavians originally built the school in the 1950s. The school, which is located about five miles outside the air base gate, had deteriorated throughout the years. Since the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom, however, Airmen here have sponsored the school, and it has been totally renovated, officials said.

"We're here to ultimately make Iraq a better place for the people," Lieutenant Archbold said. "To get to positively interact, firsthand, with the Iraqi people like I did this weekend, really put what I'm doing here in perspec-

NORI superior performers announced

The superior performers of the 2004 Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection were announced Monday. They are:

Capts. Timothy Beck, Daniel Forman, Aaron Hattabaugh, Timothy Peckham, David Williamson,

First lieutenants Michael Aul, Perry

Goebel, George Henney,
Technical sergeants Shannon Banks, Bradley Case, Karen Foster, Timothy Hughes, Daniel Jordan, Shelly Kertz, Jeffrey Klein, Todd Lewis, David Major, Jay Perkins, Keith Porter, Daniel Pressly, Michael Radenheimer, John Rubin, Christopher Steger, Bryan Thomas, Michael Vanamburgh

Staff sergeants Steven Allen, Yaneth Alvarez, Ted Byerly, Richard Clark, Chad Corcoran, Edward Crissen, Randolph Crosslin, Neil Fowler, Erick Hayden, Kevin Marriott, Brian Martin, Jeffrey Nelson, Craig Okan, Joseph Shepherd, David Stephenson, Tera Vickers, Eacy Waller, Ameer Weston, Randy Wicher

Senior Airmen Michael Becton, Jr. Michael Bieber, Kenneth Dotson, Christopher Filicky, Timothy Gatherum, Leif Gisselberg, Tomie Henson, Normica Miller, Brian Mueller, Virginia Munro, Andrew Rood, Christopher Sandefur, Joshua Spears, Brandon Stanbrough, Daniel Youmans, Matthew Zakrajsek

Airmen 1st Class James Borntrager, Brandon Brownlee, Jennifer Daffern Russell Dunn, Samuel Engineer, Lindsey Harris, Brian Hughes, Brandon Kane, James Mabry, Thomas Robinson, Jarrett Rodrick, Derik Sizemore, Katie Weems, Jason Welsh, Joshua

Telephone survey ongoing

To help the 509th Medical Group leadership assess and improve the quality of medical service, an authorized person calling on "behalf of the Office of the Air Force Surgeon General and the 509th Medical Group" will contact patients one to two days after their

appointment. This is a short six to eight question

survey authorized by the Air Force Surgeon General. Calls are made between 5-8 p.m. weekdays, except holidays.

The caller doesn't have access to any personal medical information nor will patients be requested to provide that information.

Additionally, callers are not authorized to ask for a social security number. If the caller requests a social security number,

hang up.

MedGp officials encourage and appreciate your support of this survey and its efforts to improve medical service quality. For more information, call 687-2010 or 687-5631

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Photo by 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen

'Scouting' future leaders

Staff Sgt. Lisa Wilkins, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, speaks about her Air Force career with Aubrey Russell, daughter of Tech. Sqt. Michael Russell, 509th Communications Squadron, Oct. 28 at the community center. About 30 girl scouts attended a career day where they had they chance to learn about military and civilian careers. The event was one of five possible activities the girls could take part in to earn their careers patch. Col. Connie Davis, 509th Mission Support Group commander, spoke to the girls about the importance of children learning about different job options. "The best thing about "eligible the United to the control of States and living in the democracy that we live in," she said, "is that young girls and boys have the option to do whatever they choose to do. By joining organizations like the girl scouts, they learn the work ethic and the perseverance to make a good choice when they grow up.

New prescription requirements set

The 509th Medical Group Pharmacy's new process for obtaining new prescriptions now requires people to get a numbered ticket.

Here are the steps customers must follow

Step 1. Take a ticket from the machine located at the third-party collection/other health insurance desk located near the pediatrics clinic in the pharmacy lobby. Customers will get two tickets with the same number on it from

Step 2. Have a seat and go to the first dispensing window when you hear your ticket number called.

Step 3. The pharmacy staff will give one ticket back to you and the second ticket will go with your prescriptions as they are processed.

Step 4. Your name will be called out when your prescriptions are ready, however, your number will also appear on a scroll board located in front of the windows to let you know your prescriptions are ready.

These changes were implemented for two main reasons, said Maj. Charlene Reith, 509th MedGp Pharmacy chief.

'First, it keeps customers who aren't feeling well from standing and waiting to check in at the pharmacy. They can now have a seat," she said.

Second, the law requires customers to be asked about third-party insurance.

"By placing the ticket machine at the third-party collection desk, our resource management personnel are able to get the information they need to update records on your third-party insurance without further delaying the prescription dispensing process," Major Reith said.

As with any new process, it will take time to adjust. We appreciate your patience as we continue to fine tune our use of this new tool," she said.

This new process only affects new and doctor-renewed prescriptions. People picking up refills they called in using the call-in refill system don't need to get a ticket. (Courtesy of the 509th Medical Group)

Soldiers leave lasting impression

By Melissa Klinkner

Public Affairs

"One team, one fight."

Together, the 509th Security Forces Squadron and Charlie Company 110th Combat Engineering Battalion have proven that this concept can become a reality.

Due to recent deployments to Iraq and a lower level of security that could be provided, 50 Charlie Company Soldiers stationed at Lexington, Mo., joined with the 509th SFS in support of Operation Armored Falcon in January 2003.

Army members helped fill the void of deployed Air Force troops and supported Operation Iraqi Freedom and other squadron operations, said Capt. Thomas Segars, 509th SFS.

By increasing manning, Charlie Company allowed the 509th to send more troops in support of OIF, and expanded security operations around the base, said Senior Master Sgt. James Findley, 509th SFS.

The soldiers brought a diversification of knowledge and skills gained from their civilian jobs and experiences to the 509th and were able to contribute in numerous aspects of service.

Army Sergeant Paul Trent, Charlie Company, said he was thankful to have had a position in the vehicle section of the 509th SFS where he had the opportunity to use his skills in vehicle maintenance to bring new and helpful knowledge to the existing group.

existing group.

"As part of the 509th SFS family, Charlie Company has been a real security enhancement and intimately involved in every major exercise and inspection we've had. They've also helped with the combat operations we support from Whiteman," Sergeant Findley said.

In November 2003 the original 50 Sol-

In November 2003 the original 50 Soldiers were reduced to 26. After nearly two years of service, these remaining Soldiers are preparing to be relieved of their active-duty status Sunday.

As they approach this date, Army and

Air Force troops reflect on their memories and friendships built during their time together here.

"When we go back to our unit and are doing our weekend drills, there's going to be a lot of what these Soldiers have learned and experienced at Whiteman that they'll carry with them," said Army Sgt. 1st Class Don Lilleman, Charlie Company.

When looking back on the initial integration of Soldiers into the 509th SFS, Captain Segars said, "There weren't any growing pains as you might expect. It was a seamless integration. Everyone took care of the mission regardless of the uniform they were wearing."

Sergeant Findley agreed. "The Army and Air Force became like family and worked together as a team, sharing everything. We're far more similar than we are dissimilar," he said.

The concept of Army and Air Force becoming like family was exhibited during an unfortunate occurrence during Charlie Company's stay when a Soldier was killed in an automobile accident.

The unit and wing pulled together as off-duty flights volunteered to work for Soldiers and fellow Air Force flight members so they could attend the funeral.

"There were just as many blue uniforms at that funeral as there were green. I thought of the Team Whiteman concept and it was exiting for me to behold how these two different branches came together," said Sergeant Findley.

Sergeant Lilleman agreed, saying there's been a high level of support from the 509th during Charlie Company's stay.

"The support we've received has been fantastic and far more than we ever anticipated. I can't say enough about the Air Force and how they've helped us while we've been on this mission," he said.

The feeling is mutual, said Airman 1st Class Justin Haynes.

"It's been a lot of fun having the Army around," he said. "I've really enjoyed having them here and they've definitely helped us out a lot."



Photo by Melissa Klinkner

Army Sgts. Patrick Kerr and Paul Trent perform preventative maintenance on a Humvee used for security patrols in and around the weapons storage area. Both are members of Charlie Company assigned to the 509th Security Forces Squadron vehicle section.

From office jobs to the vehicle section, checking ID cards or working in the B-2 areas, Charlie Company has been an integral asset to the 509th SFS mission, said Captain Segars.

"One team, one fight; the boot prints of the Missouri Army National Guard soldiers are now all over this wing and their tangible contributions are many and lasting. Their selfless service is a credit to the state of Missouri and the United States Army. They are members of our family and will be sorely missed," said Sergeant Findley.

This space is reserved for advertisements



Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Master Sgt. Mark Cherry, 509th Communications Squadron, speaks with Airman Veronica Whitlock, 509th CS, about the Air Force core values.

1st Sergeant's View

(Editor's note — The 1st Sergeant's View gives Whiteman first sergeants a chance to remind people of correct uniform wear, customs and courtesies and proper military decorum. Each week, a different first sergeant will share their view.)

By Master Sgt. Mark Cherry

509th Communications Squadron First Sergeant

I want to take this opportunity to say a heart felt "thank you" to everyone who has gone above and beyond to make my family's transition to Whiteman as smooth and comforting as possible. To the Blacklock family, a heartfelt "thank you" for the helpful hints, good company and friendship. To fellow first sergeants for accepting me and mine from the start, as if we've been here for years.

To Maj. Kelly Kirts, 509th Communications Squadron commander, Chief Master Sgt. Vicki Orcutt, 509th Bomb Wing command chief master sergeant, Senior Master Sgt. Max Grindstaff, 509th CS, and Master Sgt. John Benson, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, attending my graduation from the First Sergeant Academy and making sure we had everything we needed settling into our house and the squadron.

I would also like to extent my thanks to all the folks for their excellent service during inprocessing. As a matter of fact, as I reflected on my whole in processing experience, I noticed a common theme was present during each step of the way — our Air Force core values.

As I made my way about the base during inprocessing, I repeatedly noticed small acts of excellence. Excellence in all we do has been apparent on base and in

the local community. My family arrived on base the day before school started and the first stop was the Whiteman Inn where we received a warm welcome. Then, we went to the schools to get our children enrolled and we were treated well at both the Knob Noster High School and the middle school.

During my career, I have learned that the Air Force defines processes so we can constantly refine and improve them to improve our results. Over time, we gain comfort in the predictability these processes provide and we learn to have faith in our systems and our people. This giving of faith is a part of the second core value Service before self.

I couldn't have held this faith without the civilian and military people I've met. They do what is right when no one is looking, the heart of the first core value, Integrity first.

While writing and thinking about my experiences and the relationship to the core values, I've realized that integrity first is the first core value for good reason. You wouldn't find the second or third core value in people if they didn't already possess integrity first.

Integrity starts from within and flows outward to all aspects of our lives: who we are, who we strive to be and who we will eventually become.

Those who are honest with themselves about who they are have integrity at their core. This is the aspect that has impressed me most about the people in the Whiteman community: they are most impressive when they aren't even trying.

Again, I would like to close with a huge "thank you" to the folks of the Whiteman community who made my family and I feel at home.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving Call 687-RIDE or 877-518-6802

Quote Worthy

Nothing gives one person so much advantage over another as to remain always cool and unruffled under all circumstances.

Thomas Jefferson, United States president 1743-1826

"

New tax relief act established for troops in combat zones

By Samantha Quigley

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Servicemembers in combat zones stand to reap tax benefits from provisions in the Working Families Tax Relief Act of 2004, which President Bush signed into law Oct. 4.

Income earned in combat zones is not taxed; however, the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit are dependent on taxable-income figures.

This had previously left a number of servicemembers at a disadvantage, Army Lt. Col. Janet Fenton.

"When servicemembers are in combat zone areas, they have a lot of their earned income excluded for income tax purposes. These two particular credits, in order to qualify for them, require you to have income that's included for income tax purposes as gross income," said Colonel Fenton, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council.

"So a lot of our junior members were losing out on these tax credits because it appeared for tax purposes that they did not have (enough) taxable income.

The Earned Income Tax Credit affects many servicemembers, and the CTC applies to anyone with a qualifying child. When considering the EITC, servicemembers can elect to include or exclude their tax-exempt pay earned in a combat zone, whichever will provide the greatest benefit.

While servicemembers with children will find the greatest benefit from EITC, it should not be dismissed just because there are no children in the family. It is still possible to qualify, but the income cap is much lower and there is an age requirement that must be met.

If servicemembers are eligible for the

ferent than the EITC in regard to the combat zone pay situation, Colonel Fenton said. Including combat zone pay as part of total wages is not optional for the CTC. However, the formula to determine CTC has been reworked, and the amount that is refundable has been increased from 10 to 15 percent.

This could easily work in servicemembers' favor because, again, many appeared to have no taxable income and were losing out on this credit because they were not earning enough to qualify.

"This way, we suspect that more junior (servicemembers) will actually qualify for a portion of the refundable tax credit," Colonel Fenton said.

The 2004 act extended the CTC at \$1,000 per qualifying child through 2010; the previous amount was \$700 per child.

Colonel Fenton said officials have estimated that 114,989 servicemembers will qualify for these tax credits. The estimate only takes into account military incomes of less than \$35,000 if the servicemember is not in a combat zone. It also does not take into account a spouse's salary.

She said the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will make it easier to determine what was taxed and what was not by reporting tax-exempt pay earned in a combat zone in Box 14 of each servicemembers' W-2 form.

'We don't want to confuse people with this election (of inclusion or exclusion of pay). Their (combat zone income) is still excluded for income tax purposes," she said. "It's only included to see if they can qualify for the additional credit."

This rule change is not retroactive, Colonel Fenton said. No amendments can be filed for previous tax years.

Blue to Green program gives Airmen another option

The Army's newest retraining option is here for you. Airmen facing re-enlistment or separation now have another alternative. The Blue to Green program is: Retraining a step further

✔ Here and effective

✓ The Air Force and Army's new alternative retraining opportunity

✓ Training today's Airmen to be the next generation of Soldier

✓ Instead of retraining, gain training as a Soldier

The new program has already made great strides.

As the program has taken off throughout the country the program has already seen great overall success. Success has been especially strong at Whiteman, with five Airmen already making those first strides to becoming the Army's newest Soldiers. The Blue to Green program has allowed these Airmen to use their military experience in the Army and to either remain within their Air Force Specialty Code (Army Military Occupational Skill) or retrain into their choice of the Army's 210

Along with their transition, these Airmen-turned-Soldiers were able to choose from many different duty stations ranging from overseas assignments like Europe to stateside assignments like Fort Bliss, Texas. These Airmen may even qualify for an enlistment bonus if they transfer into an Army critical MOS. The day these Airmen are released from the U.S. Air Force they immediately enlist into the U.S. Army, so there's no break in service, pay or benefits.

They then attend the U.S. Army four-week Warrior Transition Course, not Army Basic Training at Ft. Knox, Ky. Airmen who transfer in the grades of E-1 to E-4 will retain the same grade and date of rank. Those Airmen in the grade of E-5 or higher will have the Army Human Resources Command determine their grade.

After successful completion of the Warrior Transition Course these Soldiers and their families will move on to their chosen duty stations and continue with their military career.

If you are interested in finding out what jobs you can transfer to or what locations are available, call the Blue to Green Liaison Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Caswell at 877-427-4487. In addition, the Army recruiters at the Warrensburg Recruiting Office can answer questions. They are located on Maguire Street, next door to blockbuster. They can be reached at 660-747-8921.

(Courtesy of Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Caswell)

The Whiteman Spirit wants to feature you.

Do you, or does someone you know, have a story idea you'd like to see in the paper? Let our staff know about it. For more information, call 687-6133 or e-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.

Spirit spotlights



Maj. Rob Palmer

509th Bomb Wing

Maj. Rob Palmer, 509th Bomb Wing, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Chris Miller, 509th BW commander, Oct. 29.

Joe Scallorns, base community council president, nominated Major Palmer for the award. Major Palmer was the 509th BW Public Affairs interim public affairs officer, filling in for the deployed Maj. Don Langley. Major Palmer is a reservist from Indiana.

"He rapidly introduced himself to the civilian community," Mr. Scallorns said. "He made sure that public affairs did not miss a step when Major Langley deployed. He learned the mission of the wing quickly."

Major Palmer left Whiteman Oct. 29 for an assignment in Washington, D.C., but his short time at Whiteman left a lasting impression, Mr. Scallorns said.

"He served as an articulate ambassador for Whiteman Air Force Base and the 509th Bomb Wing," Mr. Scallorns said. "He has always been thorough and capable, and brought a high level of energy that has been observed by many. His approach was always to be friendly, prompt and professional."

Personally Speaking

Duty title: Interim chief of public affairs

Time on station: 4 months Time in service: 16 years Hometown: Indianapolis, Ind.

Spouse: Kim

Children: Grant, 4, and Andrew, 1.

Hobbies: Golf.

Goals: To be a good father, a good husband and a good

Best thing about Whiteman: The people (and the free coffee at the Whiteman Inn).

Pet Peeves: People who are too lazy to think big. What motivates your winning spirit? To succeed you need the support of good people, and if you have the support of good people, you can't let them down.

If you could change one thing about Whiteman, what would it be? Nothing.

Submitting a Whiteman Spirit Award

Individuals are nominated from within their units or by customers impressed by the person making Whiteman a better place to live and work by going far beyond his or her assigned duties to "make it happen." If you know someone who has the Whiteman Spirit, send the nomination to the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 509, Suite 111, or e-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.

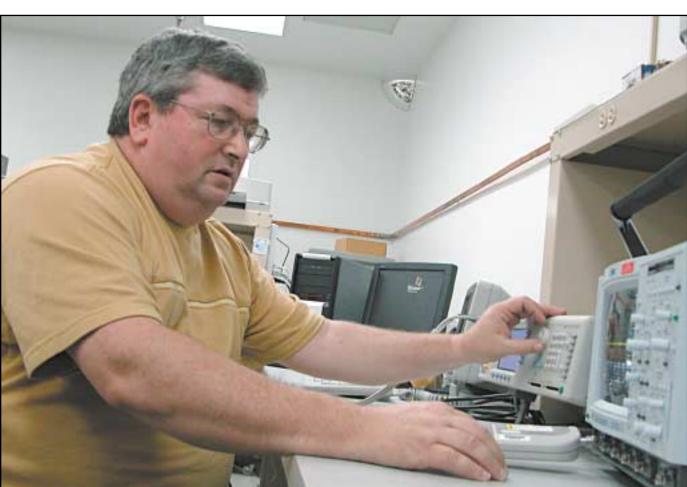


Did you know you can fill out a Department of Defense Form 2266, Hometown News Release, for a variety of accomplishments? For more details, call 1st Lt. Ed Gulick at 687-6128

FRIDAY, NOV. 5, 2004 WHITEMAN SPIRIT

FEATURE

PMEL calibrates Whiteman's success



Dan Mayo, Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory lead technician, calibrates a high-accuracy oscilloscope. This device is used by many base organizations for electronic maintenance. PMEL's operations ensure accurate readings for test, measuring and diagnostic equipment used by almost every organization on base. With an average of 23 years experience, seven certified PMEL technicians handle more than 6,000 calibrations and repairs annually.



Craig Mayeux, Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory technician, uses a microwave measurement system to calibrate a synthesized signal generator. The microwave measurement system calibrates high-frequency radio- and microwave-generating equipment used on base. Whiteman PMEL was selected as PMEL of the Year for fiscal 2004 out of nine contract PMELs in Air Combat Command.



Photos by Airman Jason Burton

Paul Schmitt, Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory quality assurance technician, uses a gauge block to measure a micrometer. PMEL staff members must operate in a controlled environment which ranges from 67-79 degrees Fahrenheit and has a relative humidity level between 20 and 50 percent. Any temperature outside the required parameters can expand or contract metals and affect precision measurements. The equipment PMEL calibrates ranges from scales at the fitness center to a tire pressure gauge for the B-2. The equipment calibrated by PMEL enables doctors, mechanics, pilots and almost everyone on base to do their job. The accuracy achieved through PMEL's calibrations enables the mission of bombs on target to be achieved.



Marc Morris, Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory technician, uses a force press to test the accuracy of a scale used to weigh the B-2. The ability to accurately weigh the B-2 is needed to ensure the weight and balance is correct for safe flying. Mr. Morris was selected as the PMEL Technician of the Year in fiscal 2004 for the Whiteman lab.



Mike Morrow, Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory technician, configures a resistance measurement system used for the most precise resistance measurements in the lab.

This space is reserved for advertisements



Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

This spot's taken

The parking slots located on the east side of the post office are reserved for U.S. Postal Service employees only. Violators will be ticketed. Library patrons are not authorized to park in these spaces. For more details, call Staff Sgt. Tawana Weston at 687-5105.

Wing honors promotees in ceremony Monday

The 509th Bomb Wing recognized 93 promotees at a ceremony here Monday. They are:

Airmen Aaron Lewis, Charles Obasiolu, Paul Watson, and Roger Zamora, 509th Security Forces Squadron, Travis Wimberly, and Kristen Horwith, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Airmen 1st Class Joseph Berry, James Borntrager, Daniel Bringhurst, Raynetta Byers, David Mason, 509th Security Forces Squadron, Steve Berry, Jeremy McDaniel, Mark Geist, Dominique Nevers, 509th AMXS, Jamie Feldhacker, 509th BW, Ashley Hatfield, Najwa Watson, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Chad Jones, Joseph Mihalko, April Stallworth, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, Samuel Lake, 509th Communications Squadron, Ana Rivas, 509th Medical Operations Squadron, and Davinder Singh, 509th Medical Support Squadron.

Senior Airmen David Andrews, Jonathan Barnes, Jared Hawxhurst, Donyull Haywood, Christina Rider, and Janinaeva White, 509th OSS, Michael Becton, Alishea Coney-Becton, Cory Lasseigne, Daniel McClain, James Moten, Jerrod Pilant, Justin Traylor, 509th SFS, John Burgess, Cassandra Curtis, Jennifer Hinds, Chad Kaloides, 509th CES, Sharath Chandra, 509th Comptroller Squadon, Anthony Chiang, Warren Connolly, Jose Espinoza, Justin Fox, Steven Jonas, James Metzger, Sean Pittman, 509th AMXS, Bradley Dugan, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron, Andrew Enriquez, Melissa Foye, Travis Geiger, Kerry Kimble, Alejandro Rivas, Timothy Schnable, 509th Maintenance Squadron, David Everett, 509th CS, Raymond Hinds. Duane Taylor, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Frederick Raffaelli, Jennifer Stewart, 509th Munitions Squadron.

Staff Sgts. Christopher Dempsey, Justin Devaney, Bronta Prophet, Phillip Shelite, 509th SFS, Mark Farrar, 509th Maintenance Squadron, Jose Gutierrez, Michael Hull, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Khaalis Hall, 509th OSS, Jennifer Hargett, 509th MUNS, and Michael Rivera, 509th CS.

Tech Sgts. Lee Burgher, Detachment 1 Air Warfare civil engineer, Wesley Coots, James Hulbert, Kenneth Kline, Scott Smith, 509th CES, Michelle Dannenfelser, 509th MOS, Michael Donaldson, 509th CPTS, Michael Lukesh, Detachment 6 372nd Training Squadron, James Pirillo, Victor Schikora, 509th AMXS, Michael Russell, 509th CS, and Dennis Seals, 509th Maintenance Group.

Master Sgts. Regina Anderson, 509th BW, William George, 509th LRS, Shelly Kertz, Joseph Taylor, 509th MUNS, Barney Lopez, 325th Bomb Squadron, and Stephen Richards, 509th AMXS.

Senior Master Sgts. Courtney Davis, Thomas Jurkiewicz 509th OSS and Susan Wittlief, 509th MUNS, and

Chief Master Sgt. William Bivins, 509th AMXS.



Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

New PTs on the way

La-Tesha Hunt, clothing sales associate, sorts through physical training uniforms Clothing allowances for enlisted members will increase from \$309.60 to \$428.40 for men, and \$352 to \$471.60 for women. For first-term Airmen, the allowances will increase from \$216 to \$298.80 and \$248.40 to \$331.20 for women. The allowances include the costs for the new Air Force fitness uniform, scheduled to arrive at clothing sales stores in 2006.



Spirit Spotlights

... on Airmen Leadership School
Class 04-H graduates Senior Airmen
Jesse Fenton, Jason Lewis, Jason
Quadros and Matthew Zakrajsek,
509th Maintenance Squadron, John
Bushong, 509th Security Forces
Squadron, Kelly Ruffo, 509th Medical
Support Squadron, John Phillips and
Janiece Smith, 509th Munitions
Squadron, Katty Beuttenmuller, Fernando Capellan, John Eaton, Gerald
Karkiewicz, Michael Parks, Virginia
Munro, Ben Simmons and James
Trudell, 509th Aircraft Maintenance
Squadron, Michael Berkey, Jorge
Grant, Kraig McFadden, and
Jonathan Osborne, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, Stephen Powell, 442nd
Fighter Wing, Patrick Nicks and Brett
Tillman, 509th Operations Support
Squadron, William Heyder, 509th

Logistics Readiness Squadron, **and Robert Kerezsi**, 509th Communications Squadron.

... on NCO Academy graduates technical sergeants Jeremy Shay, (Distinguished Graduate) Brett Cousino, 509th MXS Kelli Remmert, 509th Medical Operations Squadron, Bryan Burke, 509th MUNS, Myron Deberry, 509th OSS, Corie Roberts, (Distinguished Graduate) 509th MDSS, Richard Madurski 509th LRS, Chad Farris, William Webb, 509th CES, Tammy Klonowski, 509th Mission Support Squadron, Scott Bailie, James Osban 509th SFS, James Moody, 509th MXS, Steve Savage, Mathew Nisotis 509th CS, Lewis Long 509th BW, and Glen Sasek, Detachment 6 372nd Training Squadron.

Airmen **A**gainst **D**runk **D**riving For a free ride call 687-RIDE or toll-free 877-518-6802

This space is reserved for advertisements

What's Happening

Community

WESC hosts craft show

The Whiteman Enlisted Spouses' Club, along with Knob Noster High School's Project Graduation, hosts the annual fall craft show 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Nov. 13 at the high school gym. Booth space is still available for \$25. For more details, call Jennifer Phillips at 563-4091 or e-mail wescnews@charter.net.

ASIST date set

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training takes place 7:45 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 18-19 at the S-6 conference room. The 509th Bomb Wing Chapel presents this mandated Air Combat Command suicide intervention skills program. Materials include an intervention manual. Breakfast and lunch are provided both days. Reservations are required and seating is limited to 16 participants. For more details or to register, call the chapel at 687-3652.

Family Support

Call 687-7132 for more details on these events or other family support center activities. Events take place at the FSC.

Pre-deployment briefing set

A mandatory pre-deployment briefing for people who are deploying or going on a temporary duty assignment for more than 30 days begins at 1 p.m. Wednesday. Spouses are encouraged to attend. This briefing covers information about preparing for deployment and programs available to family members who are left behind.

WIC representative visits base

A WIC representative is available beginning at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday. WIC includes nutrition education, health promotion and a supplemental food program to help women, infants and children who have nutritional needs. For more details, call the WIC office in Warrensburg at 660-747-2012.

Pre-retirement briefing set

A pre-retirement briefing for people retiring from the military begins at 9 a.m. Monday. For more details, call the military personel flight at 687-1500 or 697-

FSC offers financial refresher

A financial briefing for senior airmen and below not attending the First-Term Airman Course begins at 1 p.m. Tuesday. Reservations are required.

Sponsor training set

A class to learn about being an effective sponsor will be offered Wednesday at

Menus

Knob Noster Elementary School

Monday: Corn dog, beans, apple

and a cookie

Tuesday: Egg roll, rice, mixed veg-

etables and raisins

Wednesday: Meatballs, mashed pota-

toes, peas and fruit

Ravioli, broccoli mix, fruit salad, bread and cake

Mr. Rib, corn, grapes and Friday:

pudding

Whiteman Elementary School

Monday: Corn dog, salad, french

fries and cake

Tuesday: Lasagna with ground beef,

salad, mixed vegetables

and yogurt

Wednesday: Meatballs, baked potato,

green beans, fruit and a

roll

Thursday: Pizza, salad, corn and fruit

cobbler

Taco salad, corn, fruit and Friday:

Chapel Corner

Catholic

Thursday:

Eucharist (mass) — 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays through Fridays; 5 p.m. Saturdays; and 9 a.m. Sundays Reconciliation — After mass and upon request

Religious Education — 10:45 a.m. Sundays at the base education and training center

Protestant

General worship — 11 a.m. Sundays Gospel — 1 p.m. Sundays Sunday School — 9:30 a.m. Sundays

Additional worship opportunities are offered through various lay councils, organizations and activities. For more information, call 687-3652.

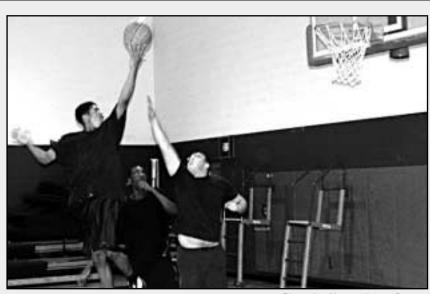


Photo by Airman Jason Burton

It's good

Monteray Sellers puts up a shot over Jerry Brooks and Donald Thomason at the fitness center. To reserve a basketball court for a group event call 687-5496. Brooks and Thomason are 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron members.

Don't miss out on Tricare benefits

Parents of newborns or adopted children must register them in the Defense Eligibility Reporting System no later than 120 days after the event to receive Tricare Prime benefits. To do this, the sponsor must take a copy of the child's birth certificate or adoption papers to the military personnel flight customer service section. After enrolling in DEERS, parents can get a Tricare enrollment forms at the 509th Medical Group Tricare Service Center or at http://www.triwest.com. To get one by mail, call 888-TRIWEST (874-9378).

SERVICES



Services page editor......Jen Hemme 509th Services Squadron.....687-4386
*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

Travel & Leisure

Tickets & Travel 687-5643

Falling leaves and falling prices

Autumn is here and there are falling prices at Tickets & Travel. Before you enjoy the beautiful drive to Branson, Mo., stop by Tickets & Travel to save money on Branson's Christmas shows, Silver Dollar City and hotels. For more details call Tickets & Travel.

Sports & Recreation

Stars & Strikes 687-5114

Mixed handicap tournament

People can participate in a mixed handicap bowling tournament beginning at 3 p.m. Nov. 13. Teams must consist of two men and two women. The cost is \$50 per team. Prizes will be given to one in every four entries. Call Stars & Strikes for more details.

Outdoor Recreation 687-5565

Turkey give away

Rent an item at outdoor recreation now through Nov. 18 and be entered to win a Thanksgiving turkey. The drawing takes place Nov. 19. Call outdoor recreation for more details.

Wall class

Learn the basics to rock wall climbing on the 20-foot wall 2-4 p.m. Saturday at outdoor recreation. Learn hands-on knowledge about safety procedures and use of equipment. Call outdoor recreation for more details about this free event.

Ice sports Arena

Ice skate 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Nov. 13 at the Ice Sports Arena, Shawnee, Kan. The \$10 fee includes transportation, ice skates and two hours of public skating. Call outdoor recreation for more details and to sign up by Wednesday.

FOOD & FUN

Mission's End 687-4422

Mission's End is closed Thursday for Veteran's Day.

Karaoke

Enjoy karaoke 8 p.m.-midnight today in the Lavene Lounge at Mission's End.





Whiteman Base Theater

Resident Evil: Apocalpse 7:00 p.m. R
Starring - Milla Jovovich & Jared Harris
Saturday
The Forgotten 7:00 p.m. PG-13

Starring - Julianne Moore & Dominic West

Sunday

Mr. 3000 5:30 p.m. PG-13

Adults \$3.50 Youth \$1.75
Movie recording line 687-5110.
Movies are subject to change due to availability.
For current and future movie listings log on to http://www.aafes.com/ems/conus/whiteman.htm.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Community Center 687-5617

Christmas cards to go

People from scouts, church, spouses, school groups or individuals are invited to send Christmas cards and remember our servicemen and women abroad. Bring a card to the community center by Dec. 4. Call the community center for more details.

An Afternoon at the USO

The community center is searching for singers, dancers and those with other talent to perform for veterans and their families 2-4 p.m. Nov. 12 at the Missouri Veteran's Home in Warrensburg. Cookies, punch and gifts will be provided for all veterans. Call the community center for more details and sign up by Tuesday.

Whiteman numismatic

Do you have an interest in coin collecting? This free opportunity for all ages to have a licensed coin grader appraise your coins, 7-9 p.m. Fridays at the community center. Call the community center for more information.

<u>Teen Center</u> 687-5819

Raising your parents

Teens can take part in group discussions about ideal parent and teen relationships 6-9 p.m. Nov. 13 at the teen center. Learn negotiation, effective communication skills and brainstorm ways to earn more freedom from your parents. Call the teen center for more details about this free event.

Youth Center 687-5586

ACC pre-teen lock-in

Fourth through seventh graders can participate in the Air Combat Command pre-teen lock-in 9 p.m. today to 6 a.m. Saturday at the youth center. Enjoy many activities and win door prizes at this event. A \$10 fee includes food, drinks, snacks and door prizes. Call the youth center for more details.

Favorite games night

Kindergartners through fourth graders can play and share their favorite games 6:30-9:30 p.m. today at the youth center. There is a \$5 fee for members and \$6.50 fee for nonmembers. Call the youth center for more details.

Members only night

In honor of membership card holders, kindergartners through seventh graders are welcome to a night of games, prizes, karaoke, food and fun 6-10 p.m. Nov. 13 at the youth center. There is a \$5 fee for this special event. Call the youth center for more details; sign up begins Monday.

Child Development Center 687-5588

Openings for full-time care

The child development center has care available for children 3 to 5 years old needing full-time care. CDC is accredited through the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs

Drop-in care

The child development center has drop-in day care 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. on a space-available basis. Call for more details.

Skills Development Center 687-5691

Starring -Bernie Mac & Angela Bassett

Marionette puppet making class

Children can make a bird puppet 10 a.m.-noon Saturday at the skills development center. The \$10 fee includes supplies. Call the skills development center for more details.

Latch hook rug making class

Take a beginners three-session latch hook rug making class 9-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16 and Nov. 23 at the skills development center. There is a \$20 fee plus supplies. Call the skills development center for more details or stop by to sign up.

Framing class

Take a beginners framing class 9 a.m.-noon Wednesday at the skills development center. The \$40 fee includes supplies. Call the skills development center for more details or stop by to sign up.

Library 687-5614

CLEP and DANTES exam prep guides

Check out the library's collection of CLEP and DANTES exam preparation guides; the collections include recommended textbooks and videos. Visit the Web site at http://www.WhitemanAFBlibrary.org to locate the Air Force Educational Center practice exams or contact the base library for more information.

Family Child Care 687-5590/1180

FCC orientation class

Receive free training to become a family child care provider 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 15-19. Providers with chronic health problems are accepted. Pick up a registration package at the family child care office and sign up by Nov. 12.

Base residents

Quality child care for military families is an important concern. Guidelines in Air Force Instruction 34-276, Family Child Care Programs, requires anyone providing in-home child care for 10 hours or more a week on a regular basis to be licensed. If you are currently unlicensed, you must cease care and apply for a family child care license. Call for more details.

Veterinary Clinic 687-2667

Protect pets from winter's woes

No matter where you live, the winter season may bring hazards that you should be aware of: antifreeze (which may smell good and taste sweet to your dog) can be fatal if swallowed. When winterizing vehicles, keep antifreeze out of reach of pets. If you spill it, be sure to clean it up properly. Call or visit the veterinary clinic for other winter tips and information.